FEEDBACK

New Publications

Out this month are *The Limits of the City* by Murray Bookchin £14.95, a revised edition from Black Rose Books; *Turning the Tide - The US and Latin America*, (same price from the same publishers) by Noam Chomsky. Available from Housmans, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1.

The second and third folios of *The Anarchist Encyclopaedia - Bakunin on Education and F. Mintz on Workers Control*, from BM Refract, London, WC1N 3XX, are also available. Send s.a.e. for brochure on the encyclopaedia.

Refract are also bringing out a new edition of *The Investigative Researchers Handbook*, which is now at the printers, as well as veteran Sam Dolgoff's biography.

Freedom Bookshop has pulled out of the *New Anarchist Review* group, so NAR will no longer be sent out in *Freedom Monthly'*. Those wishing to get the NAR catalogue four times a year are invited to subscribe (£1 for four issues from BM Bookserv, London WC1N3XX

The Channel Four television programme, 'What The Papers Say', gave well deserved congratulations to the tanky-communist *Morning Star* on a first class scoop about the mafia-linked TNT company in the context of the dispute at Wapping.

Everyone knows the *Morning Star* is in touch with the workers and that's how they get up-to-date 'exclusive' stories, which in this particular instance originally appeared in an issue of *Black Flag*, issue 151, dated March 10, and widely distributed amongst printworkers.

Quotes from the 'exclusive' were then used in the TV programme. They were cribbed unaltered from *Black Flag*; needless to say we were not quoted as the source. Maybe the 'What The Papers Say' people ought to subscribe to BF and get the scoops several months earlier?

NOTE TO READERS

The next issue of Black Flag, No. 157, will appear on 30th June, a delay of one week' This is due to visits to comrades overseas .....the next mail-out, at 121 Railton Rd. London SE24, will be on 28th June, at12.OO. All welcome.

LETTER

Dear Black Flag,

I would like to point out a grave mistake Peter Miller made in his book review 'Benito Mussolini: The Rise and Fall of Il Duce'. Mussolini did NOT make the trains run on time! The true situation is best expressed by an old Italian who lived in those days.."Mussolini didn't make the trains run on time, but you were too scared to complain".

Its an often held misconception that dictatorships are efficiently run societies, whereas an anarchist society would be inefficient. This is TOTALLY untrue. The fear and oppression of a dictatorship makes it easy for bumbling fools to get into positions of authority simply because they are party members or in favour with those in power.

This can be seen in any dictatorship, be it Franco's Spain, Hitler's Germany, Soviet Russia or Maggie Thatcher's Cabinet. A dictatorship is the society of the toady, the arse-licker and the CREEP.

Free people wouldn't be afraid of pointing out other people's faults or of having their own faults pointed out and they wouldn't allow the systems of Hierarchy, power and authority that enable fools, chrlatans and exploiters who rule our lives to exist.

TOM. (Manchester).

Women Occupy Ducketts Common

On the evening of May 17 about 70 women gathered on Ducketts Common, a small piece of land beside Turnpike Lane, north London. The plan was to reclaim this dangerous area for women after the recent rape of a woman there.

The Curzon Porn Cinema faces onto the Common. There has been a long campaign by local women to close this source of women-hating propaganda.

Women believe that this cinema is closely related to the rape and also to the harassment of women involved with the campaign by men who operate and visit the cinema.

During the occupation of the Common the women danced, played music, drank and had a good time, without the fear of harassment, attack and rape which follow women throughout their lives.

In the night men shouted abuse and insults but few of them were stupid enough to approach the occupation. If they did approach they were chased off the Common.

In the early hours of the morning large bundles of scab newspapers were a welcome addition to the campfire. Scab newspaper vans came to deliver News International titles to local newsagents. An argument started with the driver about his scabby activities. As one of the vans drove away the word SCAB was clearly visible in large red letters on the back of it.

A bad point in the night was the insensitivity of a *City Limits* reporter who tried to manipulate the women into her idea of a 'presentable' news item.

This sort of direct action does more to stop rape and the harassment of women than any number of 'sympathetic' (slimy) anti-rape centres set up by police/social workers.

SOURCE: Women Reclaim Ducketts Common.

Question and Answer on Anarchism

Q: As the majority of our food comes from the Third World, aren't the working class exploiting it just as are the capitalists, and are they ever likely to think of change while they're comparatively well-fed and prosperous?

A: Part of the alienation of capitalism is that we don't grow our own food, but if that makes us capitalist exploiters, there are an awful lot of them about, and some seem to be doing a lot better at it than others!

It is a cop-out to make these distinctions in order to suggest that the action is anywhere but in our own backyard. The 'Third World' mystique and the all-embracing slogans of 'anti-imperialism' aim to divide the workers, or alienate them from action in their own interests, and direct supportive attention to nationalist or Marxist takeovers.

We don't exploit the people we get food from (do prisoners 'exploit' those who feed and clothe them?); exploitation of the need to eat comes from a middle strata between the producer and the consumer.

People who are starving rarely revolt, except sometimes in blind despair; traditionally it is the workers who start thinking who begin revolutions — usually in the past the self-employed worker — called the petit bourgeois by Marx, a phrase which nowadays has changed meaning — the bookbinder, blacksmith, operator of small machines whether in printing, leathermaking, millinery, furs. The mass factory system coupled with long hours produced misery but prevented time for thinking.

But the process of conscious revolution has little to do with unsatisfied material needs, it is usually the product of thought about the condition of society. That is why it has been deliberately buried with mass pulp entertainment masquerading as information, thus producing conditioned thought. In the old days this was countered by open air meetings at every street corner which — even with its faults (it encouraged a personality cult in the speakers who developed inflated egos) was one way in which mass conditioning could be countered.

Austra lian ASF Founded

Continued from Page 7

was drawn up and decisions necessary to the organisation were made.

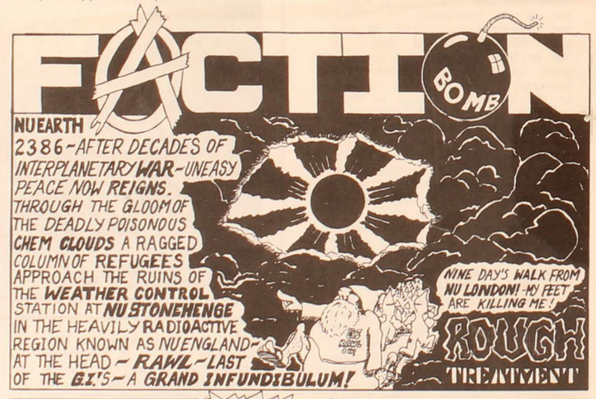
It was decided to have an Internal Bulletin which would come out monthly, contain a financial statement and be distributed to fully paid up members. The Internal Bulletin would provide a forum for discussion and its publication would be the responsibility of the Federation Secretary. It was decided that "Rebel Worker" would become the organ of the Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation and that it would take on a more newsy format and that the Rebel Worker Group would formally disband. Needless to say it was decided that the name of the organisation would be Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation. It was accepted that Local Groups would collect dues of which ASF dues would be forwarded to the Federation Secretary who would forward twenty-five percent to the Rebel Worker Committee. It was agreed that the ASF formally apply for affiliation to the IWA. That there would be two office bearers; Federation Secretary and International Secretary to be rotated at each ASF conference.

The conference ended with the Rebel Worker Group being commended for its initiative and a rousing rendition of "Solidarity Forever".

Although we are small and of limited resources and the task of building a federation of Anarcho-syndicalist local groups and industrial associations is great, we are imbued with an enthusiasm not seen by Anarcho-syndicalists for a long time on this continent. We look forward to working with Anarcho-syndicalists internationally to cleanse the world of State and Capital and its vile and pernicious manifestations with world-wide social revolution so that the air may ring with the joy of liberty.

Solidarity! Direct Action!

Leigh Kendall
ASF Federation Secretary



FACTION 32 [GRAPHIC STYLE FROM 2000AD. J.FARTPANTS GUST STAR FROM VIZ COMICS] PETE MASTIN

No.156

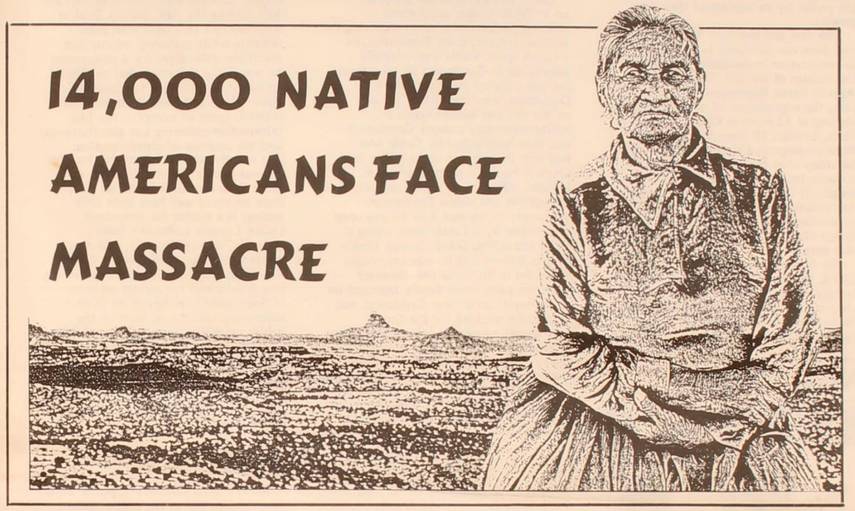
BLACK FLAG

30p

THE ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY

9-6-86

14,000 NATIVE AMERICANS FACE MASSACRE



There has been a world-wide outcry against apartheid in South Africa, but at this moment in the USA state forces are gearing themselves up for one of the biggest confrontations, as part of a massive 'relocation' scheme, with Native North Americans for many years. Within the USA many are turning a blind eye to this indigenous apartheid, and elsewhere few are even aware of what is happening. One member of the Black Flag collective has just returned from the area where all this is to happen and happening right now — Big Mountain, in Arizona — and reports that some are saying that the only way they will leave the 'reservation' is in coffins.

The following report about what is happening is by Arthur Miller of the Big Mountain Support Group, Kansas City.

The US government plans to forcefully remove thousands of Dine (Navajo) people from their homeland this year as a so-called solution to what the US government calls a dispute between the Hopi and Navajo nations. In reality there is no dispute between the Dine and Hopi, rather this is a conspiracy by the government and the energy companies to rape the land for coal, oil and uranium. The conspirators are using the neo-colonial tribal councils to do their bidding for them.

Before the tribal councils, the government had to get 75% of the people of any Indian Nation to agree before it had an agreement. In the 1930's the government created the tribal councils and maintained control by controlling the money which goes to them and thus got whatever they want from them. Because the traditional Indian people had their own means of self-management for thousands of years and because the tribal councils were used to sell or lease off land, the Traditionals never supported the councils and viewed them as one of the means the US government has been using to destroy them.

JOINT USE AREA

When the boundaries of the Hopi and Navajo Reservations were set by the US government, an area was set aside which was to be used by both and by any other Indians that the US government decided to place there. No Indian Nation had title to this land which came to be known as the Joint Use Area. When the energy corporations found coal, oil and uranium in the Joint Use Area they needed someone to sign the 'energy rights' away. One of the main energy corporations that had its greedy eyes on the area was Peabody Coal, which is Mormon controlled. Peabody, with the help of the US government, fabricated a tribal dispute between the Hopi and the Dine Nations so the area would be divided between the two nations, allowing the land to be opened up to the energy corporations. How did they do this?

First they sent a Mormon attorney, John Boyden, to have the Dine to hire him as their lawyer; he was rejected. Then the US Department of the Interior chose him to settle the 'dispute' and he organised a new Hopi council (made up of Mormons) who then hired him to resolve the mineral rights. Between 1973 and 1974 'range wars' were staged which the *Washington Post* found were created by Evans' & Associates, a Salt Lake City Mormon PR firm which also writes the Hopi Chairman's speeches. In 1974 Congress passed Public Law 93-531, which partitions the land in a 50/50 split, reduces livestock by 50% and establishes a Relocation Commission to remove all Indians living on the 'wrong side of the fence'. Because of this law up to 15,000 Dine (mainly) and Hopi indians will be moved.

RESISTANCE

On October 2, 1977, the resistance to the fencing of the Joint Use Area began with Dine elder, Pauline Whitesinger, of Big Mountain confronting and evicting fencing crews and tearing down part of the fence. From that time on the people of Big Mountain Dine declared independence and sovereignty, stating '...the sacred laws of the Dine give no authority for the Federal government and its related agencies to intrude and disrupt the sacred lands of Big Mountain.'

The government has had an economic boycott on the area for many years. These people get nothing from the government and with 90% of their sheep and goats taken away (which the people depend upon for their survival) they are in dire need of help. The government says the animals may harm the land, while right outside the area energy companies strip bare the land. They plan to do the same on Big Mountain. This, the government feels, is all right for the land.

For those who have relocated they either find themselves in racist border towns or forced to live on two acres of useless land in a house which looks like an ordinary 'suburban' house - with electrical outlets and lightbulbs in the sockets, fancy kitchen sink, etc, - the only problem being that there is no electricity or water or sewer or gas connections. The government restricts them to their two acres, which is not enough for them to carry on their traditional forms of self-survival. In time they may lose their home and be left with nothing.

DEADLINE APPROACHING

The deadline for the forced exile of the Dine people is July 8. Richard Norris, speaking for Reagan, said 'Eviction of the Navajos could be enforced by US Marshalls and the US Military'. Reagan has said that it will not be another Wounded Knee and that the relocation will be completed in 30 minutes. (This is nonsense: there are 15,000 people altogether at Big Mountain and the area is around 1000 square miles).

Most of the active resisters are elder women and the government is treating this as a military invasion against them. **WE CANNOT LET THIS HAPPEN! WE MUST ALL ORGANISE TO STOP THE MILITARY INVASION OF BIG MOUNTAIN AND THE FORCED EXILE AND OPPRESSION OF THE DINE PEOPLE!** Inaction or apathy at this stage is nothing more than approval of this genocide.

The Midwest support groups have taken on the responsibility of organising food, supplies, work crews, affinity groups and outside support of one area of the Joint Use Area. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Through the resources of the organisers of the midwest groups we need international help in the following areas: 1) Write letters of protest to Congress, 2) Send letters of protest to US embassies, 3) Organise vigils or demonstrations (outside US embassies, etc) on the 8th of every month, 4) Help organise food and supply runs (or send money), 5) Send general donations, 6) Contact the media in your area of the world, 7) Join in work crews - EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT BIG MOUNTAIN, 8) Organise affinity groups, 9) Organise meetings in your area to publicise what is going on.

We cannot defeat the US government militarily; they have the most advanced murder machine ever created. But, by mass public outrage we can defeat them. Your local organising will make the difference. Organise now like there is no tomorrow; for these people there may not be a tomorrow.

For more information contact: Big Mountain Legal Defence/Offence Committee, 2501 North 4th Street, Station 18, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 (telephone 602 - 774 5233).

or Big Mountain Support Group,
P.O. Box 6130,
Kansas City, KANSAS
USA 66106

HOT NEWS FROM WAPPING

Shit really hit the fan when a London warehouse owned by Rupert Murdoch's News International company burnt down to the ground, allegedly the victim of 2/3/several arsonists, on Monday night (June 2nd)

While murders and arson attacks on the black and asian communities get little or no media coverage in this country, it's hard for us to feel outraged or shocked by the crude 'print-workers on strike are terrorists' stories now appearing on TV and in the newspapers.

Bruce Mathews, managing director of News International, and Murdoch's No. 1 stooge, says the fire at their Deptford Warehouse was caused by striking printworkers.

But the Murdoch gang have decreed that the strikers have been dismissed long since. If strikes are made illegal, as Murdoch (by shrewd manipulation of Thatcher's laws) intends, then sabotage, arson and violence (which are also illegal, but by their nature covert) become the alternative. So all dictatorships have found.

What alternatives are suggested for the future's work force, to whom strikes may only be of historical interest, if Murdoch gets away with it ?

It seems governments sometimes forget that violence isn't something only they have a monopoly on. Why should anyone be surprised if from time to time they get a little taste of their own medicine ?

Capitalists feel pain when their property is destroyed. They deserve it all a hundred times over. Besides, if you sack workers at the drop of a hat and collaborate with police violence you should expect to get your fingers burnt

Bruce Matthews says 'They could burn all our warehouses here and we would still continue to produce.'

Don't tempt us.....



The warehouse burning out of control.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR OMORI

SEE PAGE 6

BLACK FLAG – BLACK CROSS
BM HURRICANE, LONDON
WC1N 3XX
Published, typeset and layout
BLACK FLAG COLLECTIVE
Printed by Aldgate Press
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
12 months: £12 inland
£15 surface, £19 Air.
6 months: £6.50 inland
£8 surface, £10 Air.
PRISONERS: Free on request.
GIRO ACCOUNT No. BLACK FLAG
58 552 4009
GIRO ACCOUNT No. ANARCHIST
BLACK CROSS: 51 172 0009.

For the release of all political prisoners, the relief of class war victims and the overthrow of tyranny everywhere. Smash the State! Anarchy is freedom.

Police Ambushed

The trap was set in an estate in Wallington, Nth Surrey, just outside London, after a running battle between 50 cops and a group of youths which took 3 hours for them to bring 'under control'.

Arriving to investigate a complaint, 2 cop cars had milk bottles, stones and wood thrown at them from a 1st floor walkway. One car was badly damaged, and police rushed the walkway, while the group escaped, leaving a collection of molotovs and empty bottles behind.

source: Sutton Herald.

HOME NEWS

March Against the 'Public Order' Laws

The Public Order Bill will not take away our right to demonstrate. The streets belong to the people and we will not be forced off them. Most groups are already vouching to carry on exactly as before but it is important that we link together and help each other when the police try to implement their new powers.

The first and best way in which we can show our solidarity is by a large demonstration immediately following the passage of the Bill. The Campaign Against Police Repression is coordinating the organisation of a public rally starting at 12 noon in Clock Tower Place, London N7 (near to Caledonian Road underground station) on the first Saturday after the Bill becomes law. If a march then takes place it will be illegal. (If the new laws actually come into practice at a later date there will be another rally for a march from Clock Tower Place on the first Saturday after that date.)

For further information contact CAPR, Box CAPR, 83 Blackstock Rd, London N4 (Tel. 01-881 2938). Weekly planning meetings: Tuesdays, 8pm, Stoke Newington Community Centre, Leswin Rd, London N16.

GERRY GABLE AGAIN

Gerry Gable, the elusive Special Branch agent who has been waging a private behind-the-scenes propaganda war against anarchism (see 'Not Another Exclusive', *Black Flag No 155)*, has been named as the person chiefly responsible for the framing of a junior civil servant wrongfully arrested on spying charges.

Gable was the assistant producer on a '20/20 Vision' programme claiming an 'exclusive' story exposing the the civil servant, Brian Gentleman, as a Czech agent. Gable was originally introduced to Gentleman by an informant and criminal associate, Derek Donaldson, who most likely passed on the dubious lead to Gable for purely mercenary reasons. Gentleman was then approached by Gable who told him that he was doing a film for Channel Four TV on newcomers to London. After much wining and dining the gullible and naieve Gentleman innocently mentioned how he was once approached by a Czech agent trying a bit of recruiting. Gable allowed Gentleman to believe that he was only really interested in his social life. However when the programme finally appeared on air it was all about how Gentleman was supposedly working for the Czech government passing on information about weaponry over a period of several years. The programme made headline news on the TV and in the national press. Gentleman immediately and voluntarily went to the police to try and sort things out. In the meantime he was suspended from his job.

Since then it has transpired that Gentleman is completely innocent. Subsequently Gable has been interviewed by the police (and presumably he may be charged with wasting their time).

Gable, who is also an editor of the magazine *Searchlight*, has already been exposed by the anarchist press for his regular dealings with Special Branch and MI5 (during the ABC Secrets Trial in the mid-'70's he liaised with State Security while gathering information about the defendants for a programme he was doing as a researcher on 'World In Action'). And with this latest incident more and more it appears that Gable is quite an expert at not just information-gathering but also frame-ups and the creation of disinformation. Just exactly who he is working for now (he was once a Communist Party of Great Britain official candidate - and there he could well have been infiltrating) is a matter for conjecture. Unlike Lyndon LaRouche (who normally, and deliberately, gets most things wrong) we don't believe Gable is a stooge of the KGB (although we are sure it suits him for certain sections of *Searchlight's* readership to think otherwise). Gable is as loyal to the British establishment as his *Searchlight* researcher, Dave Roberts, who also is a confidant of Special Branch.

NOTE: The frame-up of Brian Gentleman was originally exposed by Fleet Street reporter Brian Penrose, who unfortunately continues to work for the scab paper, the Sunday Times.

Brixton Incidents

Tension is rising again in the Brixton area, where there is 30% unemployment (60% for young black people), following new provocations by the police. A riot in the area could provoke countrywide unrest, on the scale of summer 1981.

It began almost two weeks ago when police tried to grab a young black man, for no apparent reason, in Vining St, opposite the token prefab 'Afro-Carribean Centre' provided by Lambeth Council in Railton Road.

The man resisted and there was a tug of war as people tried to rescue him. Then a cop got hit in the face with a brick at point black range. The cops had to retreat as an angry crowd gathered. And one cop car got smashed up and had all four tyres slashed.

Shortly after vanloads of police were seen 'tooling up' at the police station. But they approached the area with caution, no doubt worried by persistent rumours that the 'guns come out this time'. Over the Bank Holiday weekend police were out in force in groups of eight, warning shopkeepers to expect trouble. This provoked Linda Bellos, the new 'black, feminist, Jewish' leader of Lambeth, to accuse them of trying to 'provoke a war'.

The Afro-Carribean Centre remains a likely flashpoint. It has recently been closed down and now re-opened after earlier incidents. In one of these an arrogant young Eton public school student got stabbed in the bum and had his camera smashed after trying to photograph the 'natives smoking grass'.

STONEHENGE 1986



June is here, and the Stonehenge Free Festival is ON. As hordes of police, media reptiles, vigilantes and Tory MP's charge around the South of England, foaming at the mouth, 1000's of innocent fun and peace loving people are converging on Wiltshire from every direction.

Although there is as yet no fixed site, this is the best organised Stonehenge Festival yet, with dozens of meetings and benefit gigs, and local groups busy coordinating themselves. The Festival go-ers have organised to counter the police terror of last year, and the fascistic state plans and media persecution already underway to try and stop this year's events.

Similar treatment has been given to miners, printers, Greenham women and all those who pose a threat, however imaginary, to the State and its social control. Last year they spent millions on para-military policing, denying all access to the Stones, even for tourists, reserving the area for their tank exercises and military playground for fear of "litter and damage to grass", culminating in a vicious attack on a peaceful procession and the destruction of their homes. This time we will MAKE IT HAPPEN, by sheer weight of numbers if necessary. Come in peace but be prepared for war. Bring musical instruments, balloons, tents, big cooking pots, all your friends...and don't forget yourself!

There follows a rough guide on how to meet up with other Festival go-ers on the way. Stand up for your rights. Reclaim your freedom. Come to Stonehenge and make it work for all to see. Anarchy isn't chaos. Law isn't order!

STONEHENGE..HOW TO JOIN IN!

There may well be a site found, keep your ear to the ground, or be in Salisbury on June 14th.

Stonehenge 86 Campaign,c/o 99 Torriano Ave, London N5.
Festival Welfare Services. Tel. 012262759
Polytantric Circle Tel. 013883094
Release Tel. 016038654
SAG,c/0 121 Railton Rd,Lon SE24.

LETTER

Dear Black Flag,

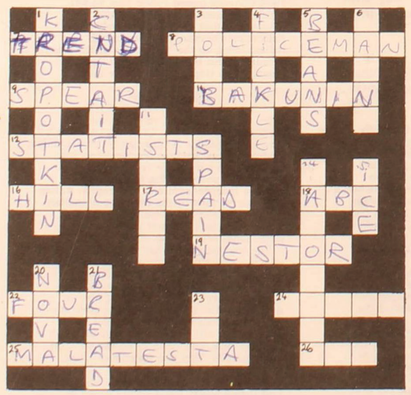
With regards to your 'Not Another Exclusive' our organ, Stuff It, *has received a vast amount of press column inches of late – the whole galaxy of nasty, nasty, nasty anarchists in the local* Evening Post *– from they want child sex to burning down the shopping centre through to incitement to murder – the whole media circus being cunningly manipulated by a local fur shop owner and local biz wiz in the Conservative Party – still, it was a laugh to get three-quarters of the leader in the* Sunday Express *(under the now legendary heading 'Evil').*

It's almost up to our own standards, that heading!

Any way the local less than Radical bookshop turned a nice shade of yellow and they made out that our box number is no more. This isn't really the case but it could explain any erratic letter replying from our quarter!

Love, Drowned Rat Collective.

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

7. Leftists follow every one of these. (5).
8. A 'Class Enemy'. (9).
9. '---' of the Nation. ANC military wing. (5).
10. Father of modern anarchism. (7).
12. Enemies of all anarchists. (8).
16. Joe ----. Famous Wobbly. (4).
17. Herbert accepted a title. (4).
18. '---' of Anarchism. Book by Berkman. (3).
19. Forename of Ukrainian anarchist guerrilla.(6).
22. Number of revolutionary martyrs hung in 1887. (4).
24. 'O' writer sympathetic to anarchism. (5).
25. Famous Italian anarchist. (9).
26. Swedish syndicalist union (1.1.1.).

CLUES DOWN

1. Theorist of Anarchist -Communism .(9).
2. Spanish section of the IWA. (1.1.1.-1.1.1.).
3. Place of pilgrimage for Highgate Marxists!(4).
4. Politicians promises are usually '------'.(6).
5. Mainstay of vegetarian diet(4%).
6. "Rise like '----' after slumber"Shelley.(5).
11. Theorist of syndicalism. (1 - 5).
13. "---- and the world", '30's @ paper. (5).
14. Name give to French 18th Century Revolutionaries. (8).
15. Trotsky's troops attacked Kronstadt across this. (3).
20. "Humanita ---", Italian @ paper. (4).
21. "The Conquest of -----"Kropotkin.(5).
23. French union, syndicalist at first. (1.1.1.).

WUSU @ G.

ANSWERS NEXT ISSUE

INDUSTRIAL

NEWS FROM WAPPING

As we go to press printworkers are being balloted as to whether or not to accept Rupert Murdoch's 'final' offer of a £50 million redundancy and £15 million print plant assets package.

Nearly half of those sacked attended a rally against the SOGAT (one of the print unions) leadership's methods of balloting and against the offer in principle. At a SOGAT conference earlier, SOGAT general secretary Brenda Dean was forced to leave because of heckling and the general ill-will towards her and her colleagues.

After five months of intensive picketing Murdoch has changed his stance from no offer at all to the present deal; many believe he will give in further. SOGAT shop stewards who point out that many distribution points have been unable to shift copies of News International titles and that sales figures have been doctored.

London machine branch officials opposed to the ballot have also pointed out that many of those being balloted are no longer involved in the dispute or have got jobs elsewhere in Fleet Street.

An independent report commissioned by SOGAT and the NGA (the other Print union involved in the dispute) has stated that as few as 300 print workers would be needed for the Grays Inn Rd. plant offered by Murdoch as part of the deal.

The following are excerpts from Picket No. 14, published by NGA/ SOGAT pickets.

"Wed 28th May,Wapping. MARCH AND RALLY.

At 9.15pm 1500 pickets left Tower Hill to march on Wapping. At the Thomas More St. exit the march stopped briefly to sing "Overtime" in front ot the police lines. The Highway was blocked by lines of police at Virginia St with 10 horses behind. The rally sang "Rupert Murdoch stick your money up your arse". A Sun clerical striker was arrested at 10.05 for sitting on a barrier. Pickets piled in but were unable to rescue him. This stirred up the crowd. Police and vehicles leaving the plant were loudly abused. At 10.30 a small section gathered in nearby Swedenborg Gardens and 100 pickets marched behind the Sogat Machine Casual banner round to the Highway from the east. This threw the police and helped to maintain the momentum of the picket. The police lines were stretched and it was 20 minutes before the pickets were corralled. Police brought in one van and a car through the crowd at 10.50. A 2nd march of 70 pickets began at 11.05 in the Gdns and wound its way along Cable St to King David Ln, ending at the Highway east of the Wapping Ln exit. Here a scab artic. and a coach appeared, driving east at speed. They were surprised and jeered by the march. Transit vans of police were taken by surprise in the side streets. It was a good jaunt. The Highway was opened to traffic at 11.30 and the march returned to Wellclose Sq.
Strikers from the mass NGA meeting swelled the picket. Morale was solid. No one wanted to accept Murdoch's offer. This was the 40th march from Tower Hill."

"SAT. 24th May, Worthing and Brighton.

At 9.45 p.m. a flying picket left London for the Portobello Press at Worthing. There was 300-5-- pickets, all in cars. On arrival at midnight the pickets were told that the plant had been shut down. The pickets had been expected and the police couldn't guarantee the safety of the lorries. There were 12 police on the estate guarding an empty plant. At 1.30am a meeting was held to decide the next move...to head for Surridge Dawson's or Hove Distributors. S & D won, and at 2.30 pickets arrived in central Brighton to find 20 police at the entrance. The surrounding roads were sealed off. The pickets were told that nothing would be entering or leaving that night. The place seemed to be in darkness. Police allowed 4 pickets into the building and they were delighted to see piles of return copies of the Sun. A group stayed on just in case this was a ruse. One car left for Hove to investigate the situation there. At 4am another meeting was held, and again the police promised that the place would remain closed. The pickets threatened to double their numbers if the distribution went ahead. Roads were sealed, with police Transits blocking access even for residents, but the police were less hostile than at Wapping. The pickets gradually dispersed after the meeting and reckoned the night was a complete success & victory. Pickets were pleased with their effectiveness. There were no arrests and no hassle."

OTHER NEWS

"*Pickets assemble every night at Wst Horndon TNT plant. Last week, when a flying picket bolstered the usual numbers (around 30), one scab suddenly saw the clarity of class issues in all their theoretical, ideological and historical perspectives ... and DROVE INTO A COP CAR.
****Pickets in Liverpool are having uneven success. A small no. is being stopped from going into the large Bemrose plant which does colour supplement work for Murdoch.**
*****Pickets were pleased to learn of support from a minder in the General Trade who refused to print an insert for the Sunday Times and was sacked."**

"STICK YOUR OFFER UP YOUR ARSE"

Picketing printworkers are right now organising to defeat the current combined attempt by the company/police/officials to stop the picketing. The job remains to clear the scabs from Wapping. 100% entry to Wapping and to clear the police from the area. For that reinforcements are needed. Fellow workers, the road to Wapping is the road to your freedom. Join us."

AND , FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT:

FLYING PICKET STOPS SCABS

At 8.00am on Monday 2nd June, 250 pickets, arriving by surprise, marched from Wellclose Sq., down Virginia St to the Wapping Main Gate.

The gates were quickly locked up, as the pickets forced their way through the crowd barriers and surprised police line. When the police reinforcements arrived there was pushing and shoving to try and clear the gate.

There were minor scuffles, leading to some arrests.

At 10.00am , after successfully blocking all vehicles for 2 hours, and scabs walking through for 45 minutes, the stewards led the pickets off on a march round Pennington St and back to The Highway.

All in all it was a good morning picket, and great for morale.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PROPHET FOR PROFITS.

News Corporation Ltd, the company at the centre of the Wapping dispute, became one of Australia's most profitable companies in the half year to Dec., 31st, '85 after a 125% leap in net profit from 58.4m dollars to 131m dollars.

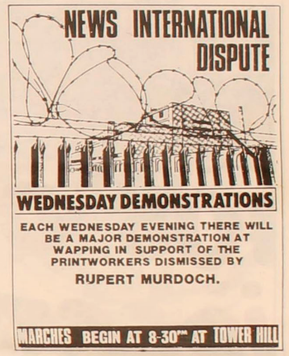
In the UK, News International's profits soared 85% to £34.5m from £18.7m. The Sun's profits rose by £9.8m, News of the World's by £2.1m and the Sunday Times by 2.9m.

By sacking its 5,500 print and production workers without redundancy payment Murdoch is expected to announce even bigger profits and plans. A 200 page (more than double the present 80 page) Sunday Times is planned for '87, modelled on the New York Times and to be printed at the News International Glasgow works and in another new plant planned for the North of England.

CHIMNEY TAX

Adrian Berry, science correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, (who happens also to be the proprietors son) had some interesting comments on data computerisation, comparing the laws with the old Chimney Tax.

'In large parts of the country it was not collected at all. Why? Because the tax collectors had an aversion to being thrown into the nearest river with broken heads . It is sometimes physically impossible to remain within the law.' Yes, at Wapping too. We didn't think you cared!



PRINTERS PICKETS

260 pickets stopped TNT 'white mice' vans leaving Brookbank Park Industrial Estate on the morning of 9/4/86.

During the same night the TNT depot at Carlisle was picketed by the printworkers marching en route from Glasgow to London.

THE TRADE UNION RIGHT AND THE SAS

During the 1984/85 Miners Strike in Britain we reported on an organisation called Mainstream, which brings together certain right-wing trade unionists to examine means of influencing the direction of trade union politics in Britain. The scab miners union, the UDM, together with sections of the electricians union, EETPU, and the engineers union, the AEU W are all represented in Mainstream.

A closer working relationship between EETPU leader, Eric Hammond, and the UDM leadership has evolved to the extent that Hammond is due to take the platform at the UDM conference in June. Also speaking at the conference will be NCB chairman, Ian McGregor.

Parallel to Mainstream is another, older organisation, called TRUEMID (Movement for the True Industrial Democracy), which was first set up in 1975 and is currently chaired by Sid Davies, a one-time official of the AEU W. TRUEMID includes several other former and serving trade union officials. The organisation is financed by big business, including such anti-union stalwarts as Barclays, McAlpine, Hambros, Morgan Grenfell, etc. The organisation has good links with the press and TRUEMID union candidates at branch and national elections tend to get biased coverage (Bill Jordan, for example, the newly elected AEU W president, is a TRUEMID member).

There is even an SAS connection. Colonel David Stirling, founder of the SAS, is a TRUEMID council member and lobbyist. Stirling's earlier adventures into anti-union activity involved his setting up GB75, which was his industrial version of his private paramilitary defence force, Watchguard. The object of GB75 was to organise a strike-breaking force, using mainly former military personnel and anti-unionists generally. In many respects GB75 reflected the Organisation for the Maintenance of Supplies (OMS) set up prior to the 1926 General Strike by Lord Hardinge, but never achieved its size. The OMS however was never really called upon as the state's own initiative, via the Supply and Transport Organisation (years later to become the Civil Contingencies Unit), had already organised plans to recruit loyalists, students and businessmen (sic) into a force of 10,000 to break up strikes and carrying on scab work. Incidentally the STO also called upon the services of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Institute of Civil Engineers to provide a back-up resource. Today it is not the trade and professional associations that are being called upon to organise against strikes, but trade unionists by their own leaderships.

Another right-wing sinister force acting against the interests of trade unionists that is worth mentioning is IRIS (Industrial Research Information Services) which puts out 'research' propaganda against the trade union left and also in support of nuclear industry and NATO. This is not surprising given that one of the IRIS directors is John Boyd, who also happens to be a director of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, British Steel, the BBC and is also a former AUE W official.

SOURCE *New Statesman* and *Black Flag Quarterly*, no. 6, 1984.)

COVER-UP OVER DEAD NEIGHBOURS

The discovery of the corpses of two neighbours in Effra Parade SW 2 in the middle of May is a clear indication of how callous society is becoming.More than likely Mr. George Owens and Mr. Eric Arris died from hypothermia, the government sponsored execution for elderly people who may become a "burden on the state".

It is believed that 79 year old George Owens had possibly died before Christmas, which means that for almost 6 months his corpse lay in his flat. If Mr. Owens body had not been discovered through the concern of a a local teenager then the body of Mr. Arris would not have been discovered. Mr. Arris had lay dead in his flat since March.

Because of a very severe and prolonged winter, a record number of elderly people perished through hypothermia (i.e. froze to death). It would appear that another 2 people can be added.. The direct responsibility for Mr. Owens lies with Lambeth social services committee, and the inability of that c'tee to carry out its functions. It appears as if a secret inquiry is going to create a cover up and produce a scapegoat.

An attempt to put the blame and cause of death of these two neighbours upon the presence of squatters in the area is being cooked up.

The relationship between the dead neighbours and the squatters is that both are victims of a capitalist state supported by middle class professionals many posing as socialists but in reality full of bullshit and hypocrisy.

Anarchist squatters and Effra Parade are synonymous in many ways, because of the resistance to Lambeth Labour Council, the Bailiffs and the police as was witnessed in the recent past. Which is why any attempt to turn the squatters into a scape goat in this case, by the press, the council or anyone else must be exposed for what is is; slander.

Black people, Jewish and Irish people Gypsies and many others have been used by unscrupulous demagogues and opportunists in different times, countries and situations. We will not allow the squatters in Lambeth to become the victims of the social-fascist Council. It would benefit everybody if the social services c'tee do the decent thing and resign en masse.

INTERNATIONAL

WEST GERMANY

STOP WACKERSDORF NOW

After the Chernobyl catastrophe the planned Nuclear Reprocessing Plant at Wackersdorf (WAA), the German Win!scale, has become the main focus for resistance in W.Germany. For once the anarchists and autonomes from the cities have been united with anti-nukes,pacifists,and local farmers and villagers in an all out attack.
The Wackersdorf plant, in Bavaria near the Czech border, will produce plutonium, the stuff of Nuclear Bombs. It will come on stream in 1995, the year when, by treaty, the W.German state will be allowed to have its own Nuclear Weapons.
The Campaign has been building up since January, when 1000s demonstrated in the forest in minus 10C. There have been 2 deaths already, many hundreds injured, and many 1000's nicked. As well as millions of marks damage caused.
On the weekend of 17th to 19th May, however, after 3 weeks of radioactive fallout from Chernobyl, over 30,000 people came to Wackersdorf, in a mood for civil war. There follows reports compiled from several participants. What a pity such powerful resistance is not seen in the UK!

SATURDAY NIGHT

Local people had already organised a camp nearby, with 2 to 3 thousand people there. The first attacks against the declared "Invincible" fence began, and one electricity pylon was cut down.

SUNDAY

By noon 10,000 of us (including maybe 1000 of us masked militants) were walking beside the fence, while cars stretched back for miles in the country lanes, and 1000's more were parking up on the far side of the site. The cops weren't even searching the traffic. The last 2 radioactive weeks had made us angry and many, and given them a bunker mentality.
So off we trot at 1pm, as choppers flit above us. And lo and behold we find some 50 of the impertinent scum (police) standing OUTSIDE the fence. Well, a hail of stones soon sees them back inside the gate, in snite of their helmets and shields, and didn't the last 5 get a pasting !
Right from the start stones flew over the fence. Inside were 40 water/gas cannons (some new ones with a range of 65 metres) and literally1,000's of pigs.
We set out to cut the fence, made of half inch steel rods, criss crossed with steel bars like railway tracks, and solid metal posts every 5 metres. The cannons blasted us back with water and CS gas mixture, but received a veritable hail of stones, paint, wood, catapulted ball bearings and the odd molotov cocktail in return. As the gas struck home the battle escalated, with everyone starting to join in. Police with loud hailers appealed in vain for the "respectable" demonstrators to split with the terrorist radicals, as local farmers got the stone supply well organised, and while families began masking up to fight. Video teams were attacked and quite a few mollies began to get through to the cannons.
Piling tree trunks, metal sheets and sheet plastic along the fence, we began to make partial shelters from which the many with hacksaws could attack the fence. It was hard work. Soon the sheer noise of the hail of rocks on the cannons made them hang back a bit, and the older Mercedes cannon became utterly useless at keeping the 'black caps' (us) at bay.
After a good 3 hours of this, as holes began gradually to appear in the 'Invineible' fence, the bastards in charge sent out 200 unfortunate riot police to try and protect the fence from without. With furious hatred the autonomous crashed onto the pigs. They hadn't a chance in the hail of rocks that hit them , and very many of them were seriously injured, as they fled in panic, dragging their injured behind them.
By mid afternoon there were a dozen person sized holes in the steel fence, and we proceeded to storm the 'police zoo', a few would slip through, whenever a cannon withdrew for reloading, and began building further barricades/shelters beyond the barrier. However our coordination wasn't good enough, as we had run out of molotovs, just when we had broken through and needed them most. (Smuggling them in was risky, as you could go to prison for years if caught). Though brave groups danced between the cannons to stone building machinery behind the second fence, little serious damage could be caused.
After seven hours of all out attacks and constant gas warfare, the fighting subsided, most of us were hurt or completely exhausted by nightfall, but 3 or 4 hundred masked reinforcements kept it up all night, pelting the pigs as they tried to weld up the holes at 3 in the morning.
The good thing was the 'average citizens' joined in, they couldn't isolate and divide us this time I remember an old granny giving me a plastic bag to carry stones in , and a good piece of metal for digging..Great.. or on another occasion as gas grenades thudded down from helikopters all around us, I compliment two old women on their gas masks. 'It is like a People's Revolt' said one woman,'We come here every week to help and shout'.
After the first day the 'score' stood at 232 police injured, 27 seriously - 200 of us hurt mostly by gas (600 litres of CS gas and 1000 litres of CN gas had been used!) Only 13 of us had been arrested, mostly the night before or on their way to the place.

MONDAY

Very early in the morning some radicals stole an excavator from a nearby village, drove it to the WAA site, and tried to tear down the main gate of the fence. But a watercannon and a helicopter dropping gas bombs forced them to give up, whereupon the digger was set alight. Then more helicopters arrived, flying in 100's of BGS (an elite commando type force). The police were intent on revenge, nevertheless we began our attacks again at noon, less than the day before, but still cutting new holes. Two police trucks were caught and set alight. Then the revenge began,as the helicopters arrived in force, dropping gas grenades on everyone, near and far from the fence ,as we harrassed them with flares, and cursed and cheered as the police vans went up in flames, and 100 special police on foot were sent fleeing away. A little girl had an asthma attack and almost died in intensive care, nearly becoming the third victim of the police (A 65-year old woman died of a heart attack during a police eviction in Jan., and a 35 year old man died at Easter, of an asthma attack caused by CS gas.)
Now the police had the advantage, gas injuries were many, with the cops spraying pure gas from the cannons at times, and even baton charging the Red Cross area, where iniured people were being evacuated to the few hospitals which refused to give information to the police. Meanwhile Ch. Kohl spoke of "not an attack on WAA, but on the state itself", and the Interior Minister fumed about "A violent attack by chaoten (chaotics?) on State Order" and urged every citizen to isolate the violence users.

TUESDAY

By now most people had left. At 6.00 pm the police surrounded the remains of the camp, as helicopters dropped bgs police on top of us. 130 of us were arrested, at least 17 were badly beaten up after arrest. Meanwhile a further 47 people were captured in the countryside, some were hunted down by low-flying helicopters. But there was still resistance. Local anti-nuclear groups, using a telephone alarm chain, obstructed the transport of the arrested! Roads were blocked, tyres slashed, and quite a few people rescued, forcing terrified police to draw their guns. (The local government had legitimised use of guns in advance). That evening 400 people attacked a police station in a nearby town, smashing all the windows (3 more arrests). The police too began blocking highways as a 'preventive measure'.
40,000 had demonstrated in the cities over the same weekend. Atom shares slid on the Frankfurt stock exchange, and had already crashed in New York. Even in Poland 3,000 managed to petition against the planned Zarnowiec Nuke Station.
Violent and expensive attacks were raging on Nuclear targets all over Germany. (see seperate article).
But the best thing for me was to see the cultural mixing, (meltdown?) rare in Germany, punks mixed happily with peace movement softies, hippy bureaucrats with black clad anarchist nilitants. A basis for a long and bitter campaign, with escalation on both sides.
The police, who only began to use CS gas (as opposed to CN) this Easter, are demanding rubber bullets, and over the weekend tried out a new type of Cs gas grenade which "cannot be thrown back". We shall see what, and who, 'cannot be thrown back'!
Sources: Participants. Echomedia Berlin. Taz. Wackersland News.

ANARCHY IN BARCELONA



CNT-AIT Demonstrating on May Day this year.

From our correspondent

26/4/86: At eight in the evening the Barcelona squatters and other homeless people stage a demo outside the Town Hall in the Plaza Sant Jaume, in which they try to take the Town Hall by storm,all thirty of them. Demo dispersed violently by the Municipal Police.

27/4/86: One in the morning in the *Concentric*(a bar in the centre frequented by the squatter/punk community) eight Municipals(cops) go in and spray tear gas everywhere. As the punks leave,vomiting and crying,the Municipals are waiting for them: all of them are beaten up there and then despite neighbours' protests. Word gets around. About two in the morning someone throws a beautifully aimed brick through the window of a speeding Policia Nacional car; for once the Municipal and the Nacional police team up, walking all over the centre in massive numbers, arresting anyone in a leather jacket. Of the fifteen arrested , seven are still in the Modelo Prison. The one I know personally I've tried to visit, but all visits are refused, which is an obvious sign that he's been beaten up.
Write to him! : Pedro Domenech, Apartado de Correos 20, Preso Modelo, C/Provenca, Barcelona 08029, Spain. Or complain directly about the incidents to : Direccion General de Instituciones Penettenciarias, Pau Claris 138. Barcelona, Spain. (Where there's been a demo on May 10th)
All 7 arrested have written saying they've been badly treated.

VICTIMISATION

The KAFE VOLTER collective, (anarchist/punk/squatters group who run a cafe, video workshop,meeting place etc.) have already issued two Communiques saying this latest agression is one of many; The cops find it easier to pick out a kid with coloured hair than any of the numerous pimps, smack dealers, fences, and white slave traffickers (its true!) who infest Barcelona's centre. The Communiques are endorsed by 30 groups, including all the Libertarian Centres, the CNT-AIT, anti-militarists and various feminist groups.

A dossier on the attacks is being prepared for Amnesty, and any foreign pressure is welcome to help stop this police victimisation of 'marginalised' groups.

CNT- AIT MAYDAY MARCH

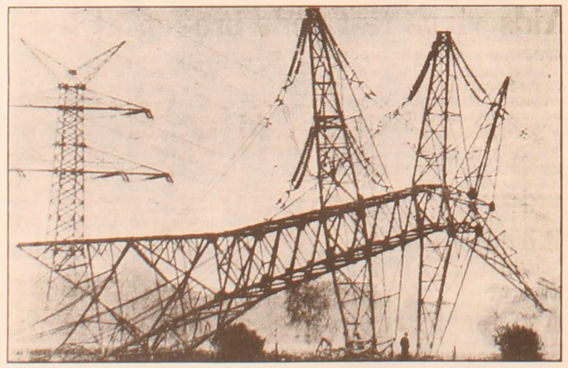
On Mayday 2000 people marched in Barcelona with the CNT-AIT, and heard speeches by Rafael Henares (Catalan General Sec.), Jose Luis Gomez (veteran activist), and Luis Fuertes (Bilbao Secretary).
The 'other' CNT was attacked, it was pointed out that nearly all their members now have dual membership with the socialist or communist reformist unions.

CNT- AIT LABOUR DISPUTES

Two syndicalist struggles are on at the moment in Barcelona. One is at the Cardellach Lift company, which wants to sack 120/130 workers. The CNT-AIT has been organising pickets and blockades, including recently the mass occupation of a supermarket opposite, which ended up with everyone being given a free item of food. In the 2nd dispute the CNT are picketing 3 cinemas in the centre who use less than the legal minimum of workers.

NEW BARCELONA PAPERS

Two new papers have appeared. One is an anrchist /squatter mag called PAJARRAKA (a kind of Barcelona CROWBAR) and the other is a well done mag called LA LLETRA A. Based in Catalonia and made by mainly members of 2 pro CNT-AIT Libertarian Centres in Reus and Poble Sec. Its a good serious paper and welcomes international news. It costs 150 pts and is available from: Carrer Sant Vicenc 3, Reus, Tarragona, Spain. Finally may I mention DOLOR DE TRIPAS, which I work on, please send us info on @ activity anywhere, plus addresses of anti-state prisoners etc. in English/Catalan/Dutch/Spanish or Italian. The address is : Dolor De Tripas, Apartado de Correos 35152, Barcelona, Spain. Many thanks.



Hey pacifists ! Do pylons have feelings too?
Electric pylon carrying cables to a nuclear processing plant near Hamburg, West Germany.

ANTI- NUCLEAR RESISTANCE

WEST GERMANY

ANTI-NUCLEAR PROTESTS

Since the Chernobyl "accident waiting to happen" we have news of a big wave of resistance across NW Europe, ranging from pickets to huge demos to sabotage to bomb attacks, almost none of it reported in the media. Here is a brief selection of this news:-



PYLON WITH BANNERS:'STOP NOW' 'LEKKY YES' BUT NOT LIKE THIS'

In Germany latest polls show 70% opposing Nuclear Power. Large numbers have now realised that only by direct-action is there any chance of stopping the 'nuclear state.'
**3000 people turned up at a meeting at Berlin Uni. to discuss how to stop Nuclear Power.
** Thousands came to a demo in the centre of Bremen. When radioactive rain began to fall they tried to squat the Cathedral. The Siemens building was pelted with contaminated vegetables. Police were forced to retreat.
**After demos at the site of a new Nuke Station at the village of Borken it was announced that building plans have been at least temporarily scrapped.
**A meeting of the ruling CSU party had to be abandoned, with officials escaping through back exits, as demonstrators stormed the building, throwing radioactive veg. and eggs.
**The W. German Greens have begun a phone-in service and a massive poster campaign, providing details of radiation levels suppressed by the Gov. and media.
**The 'Robin Wood' action group occupied a 200 metre high lekky pylon, provoking wide publicity. They were still up there over a week later, proving legally and physically difficult to evict.
**6000 demonstrators were very heavily attacked by 2,500 police thugs at an anti-nuke demo in Wendland. Cops also smashed up cars and destroyed a complete road restaurant during vicious tear gas attacks.
**The Gorleben riots. Hundreds wounded and arrested. The demonstrators went on to the Nuclear waste dump at Schacht-Konrad, where there was a further demo of 4,000 people some days later.
**Mid May. Too many demos to list, all over the fucking place.
**15,000 demonstrated in Munich, according to police estimates.
**Hessen. Ministry of the Environment occupied.
**Berlin. Main streets blocked temporarily after mass dumping of contaminated milk and veg.
**Bodenwohr (Near Wackersdorf site). Town Hall set alight. Chemical Research Centre destroyed by arson in Sudetenland.
**Farmers block access to Nuke Station in Hamm, using tractors, for a whole weekend.
**120 car convoy blockades the road to Gorleben.
**3,000 people besiege the RWE buildings (the Co. that has the building contract for the Wackersdorf Reprocessing Plant).
**Several 1000 demonstrators stopped at the French border near site of a French Nuke Station.
**Doodewaard (holland) . Nuke Station blockaded, delaying shift changes.
ETC . ETC. ETC.

source: Bluf.

HOLLAND

TO HELL WITH SHELL

One night in early May sixteen Shell petrol stations were attacked and sabotaged along the Dutch motorways, in protest at Shell's key function in the Sth African economy. The raiders condemned the passivity of the established Anti-Apartheid movement. The petrol stations were out of action for at least a day, due to cut hoses, glue, one set alight etc. Reactions, even from liberal white Sth Africans, was very positive. Black South Africans organisations have vowed to destroy apartheid this year. (Heartwarming, by the way, was the news last week that Sth African nazi police were forced to teargas Sth African Nazis at a Government conference..well done boys!)



MEDIA HYPOCRISY ON NUCLEAR SECRECY

After the Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union there have been countless stories in the press about parallel cover-ups and the witholding of information relating to past nuclear tests in other countries, especially in Britain and the USA.
Rightly so, governments have been condemned, but the media has pretended that little of the information about those past disasters has been readily available. Rather it now suits the press to attack the centralisation of power and the excessiveness of government secrecy.
Much of the information about previous leaks, in particular the 1957 Windscale (now Sellafield) fire, was built up as a result of pressure from 'fringe' environmental lobbies and has been circulating in the 'alternative press' for years. Now, the same national press that has for years consistently put out propaganda and disinformation against the anti-nuclear movement and the environmental groups, has done a u-turn, not through any change of heart, but because the Chernobyl disaster cannot be ignored, it 'makes a good story' and there is clearly popular concern about its consequences.
Greenpeace is one such environmental group that has faced press critisism And it was not the vast resources of capitalism that went to the aid of Melanesian islanders faced with further nuclear pollution as a consequence of more French nuclear testing at Muruoa, but an organisation that no government or ideological bloc is willing to endorse. Press coverage about the bombing of the *Rainbow Warrior* was inspired not because of any sympathy with Greenpeace but because of the ensuing scandal in France.
Prompted by the Chernobyl accident the press have now dug up the information on the 1957 fire at Windscale. It took 25 years before the full details of the leak were released. At the time of the accident the government put out a statement assuring people that there was no cause for concern as the pollution (a polomium cloud) had dissipated 'over the sea' (which sea?). In reality it had headed over the country in a south-easterly direction. It took the authorities three days to inform people, within a 200 mile radius not to drink milk (what about local water?). And it has taken the Chernobyl disaster for the national press to question the excessive secrecy of the British nuclear industry.
But the press has not suddenly found its 'nuclear conscience' . When Chernobyl's no longer prime-time news, the press will resume its anti-nuclear, pro-secrecy stance once again. Passing through a true-blue Tory village in deepest Surrey the other day a woman assistant in a Chemist shop remarked that 'the environmental lobby was right after all'. But will she be saying this in a month's time when the government begins to equate those who demonstrate outside the nuclear plants and the US bases as 'terrorists'?

JUNE NUKILLER EVENTS IN BRTAIN

National week of action against nuclear energy: June 7-14. Called by Miners Support Groups.
Friday June 13: picket your local Electricity Board Offices.
Saturday June 14: Mutants Against Doom (MAD) demonstration outside Dungeness nuclear power station, Kent. Bring own transport, refreshments, banners, etc.
Sunday June 15 : Demo at Dungeness 2 p.m. Called by Kent and Sussex people , London Greenpeace, North London Anti-nuclear groups, etc Some vegetarian food available. Bring musical instruments, etc.
And finally a new anti-nuclear waste group has formed to try and stop dumping of nuclear sludge off Dungeness beaches once and for all. News of the last leak there was supressed for a month. More incidents during the last 10 years at the plant are coming to light, including the transportation of 40 tons of Dungeness beach to Sellafield, after it was irradiated.

INFORMATION FALL-OUT

1. High levels of Caesium 137 have been found in grass in Cumbria, where the rainfall levels are high, in the wake of Chernobyl. It is believed that livestock in the area have been contaminated to the extent that in months to come meat will have to be discarded. Limits set by the National Radiological Protection Board for Caesium 137 are 13,000 bqs per sq metre; according to the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology this has been exceeded by around 4000 bqs.
After Chernobyl the Ministry of Agriculture & Food tested milk for Iodine 131 and it is only recently that tests have been proposed for Caesium on meat.
If levels have been exceeded there is no guarrantee of course that the public would be informed of this, especially as it would mean that virtually all meat would be contaminated for years to come (Caesium has a life period of at least 30 years).

Meanwhile as tests continue livestock are not being fed on uncontaminated hay. Nor are there any plans being made for Caesium contamination on vegetable and non-grass plant life.
2. According to the US-based Nuclear Information and Resource Service there are 10 US nuclear plants without containment. (Chernobyl did have secondary containment, despite earlier allegations to the contrary). It has been estmated that the 10 plants are capable of resisting less than half the pressure Chernobyl was designed to resist. All 10 are involved in the production of plutonium for war purposes.
3. Since the last issue of *Black Flag* leaks have been reported at Sellafield (the fourth, reportedly, this year alone) in Cumbria, and at La Hague, near Cherbourg in France.
The Sellafield leak was reported because it happened during a routine safety inspection by people from the National Radiological Protection Board. Two workers were contaminated.
At La Hague three workers employed by a sub-contractor were found to be contaminted up to 4 times the decreed limit and with contamination on their hands up to 6 times the limit.

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

AUGUST 11th 1986

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR OMORI

As we reported in the last issue of Black Flag, Anarchists and anarcho-syndicalists in Britain will be demonstrating in solidarity with Katsuhisa Omori on August 11th 1986.

Since then anarcho-syndicalists in Nth America have informed us that they too intend to demonstrate in solidarity with Omori, and suggest calling for an International Day Of Action on the same day.

We fully support this idea and urge all anarchists/anarcho-syndicalists all over the world to show solidarity with the Free Omori Campaign on that date..Aug. 11th 1986, which is the 10th anniversary of his imprisonment!

Letters of support for the Free Omori Campaign have been sent to the Omori Support Group in Tokyo from all over the world. Here are a few examples received over the last year:

From Denmark:

To Katsuhisa Omori,
From our National Congress (Nov 22-24th) we send you fraternal greetings.
We believe in your cause and in the fight for freedom and human rights. We are of the opinion that you are innocent and that the State is doing you an injustice.
We feel for you with all our hearts.
For your soonest coming liberation.
The Danish Anarchist Federation.
(This greeting was carried unanmously by the participants at the national congress of the DAF).

From Uruguay:

Dear Anarchist Comrades,
Perhaps they will have already executed you by the time you get this letter. It wont matter. They can't kill us all. One day humanity will recall all those who gave their lives for an ideal.
Don't forget that on the other side of the world there are people fighting for those same ideals. Down with State terror! Down with the oppression of Capital!
Grupo Sindical Uruguayo (Montivideo).

From Greece.

My friend and comrade Katsuhisa,
Wishing you my best hopes for your cause, and believing that the Japanese State will recall the stupid death sentence, I'm writing to you from a thousand miles away in Greece.
I watched your case as close as I could. So did all the comrades in Greece. I'm working with the 'Anarchos Collective' in Athens which publishes a magazine of the same name. All the comrades here know about you and we've had demonstrations outside the Japanese Embassy in Athens and collected signatures for a petition supporting you. I hope you heard about these actions in support of your release. In May 84 some comrades attacked cars outside the Japanese Embassy with molotov Cocktails, destroying two of them.
Nobody can take Omori's life away from us as long as we are free.
Anarchist regards, Y.K. (Athens)

From the USA:

Dear Comrades,
We recently received a circular from the General Secretary of the International Workers Assoc. concerning the case of Omori. The Workers Solidarity Alliance is affiliated to the IWA and is the sister organisation of the Japanese Workers Solidarity Movement.
As internationalists we fully support the international campaign to free Omori. In our upcoming magazine 'Ideas and Action' we will be carrying an appeal for Omori's freedom. Although the WSA is a small and new organisation, we will do all we can to save the life of Omori. We believe that if Omori will be executed it will give the Japanese State the green light to execute others.
Enclosed you will find our letter to the Supreme Court and the Prime Minister Nakasone. We hope these letters help in a massive outcry against State terrorism.
Please keep us posted on all new developments.
We remain, Yours in solidarity,
M.M. (Nat Sec WSA-IWA).

From Canada:

To Katsuhisa Omori,
Please accept my encouragement to continue a vigourous defence. Received letter from Denmark and have sent Minister of Justice a letter which is enclosed.
In Resistance, E.W. (Montreal).

From Australia:

To Omori Support Committe, Tokyo,
In solidarity with Omori and your actions we have begun the process of our activities here.
We do this because States everywhere learn from each other, and because Japan and Australia are linked by relative proximity, trade, cultural trade and tourism. We recognise that this growing relationship between the two States places us in a position to agitate with some effectiveness. No one likes an embarrassment or questions which are difficult to answer, least of all when they are trying to sell something..or a holiday.
Although we are few in number we will work to achieve what we can. Already we are in contact with a support group in Sydney, and thus have the potential to coordinate our actions.
We request information you have on the background and circumstances of Omori's arrest, and an update on recent developments in his case.
Free Omori!
Yours in love, solidarity and struggle,
T.J. (Melbourne Omori Support Group),

From France:

Dear friends and comrades,
We ask for news about Omori's situation and information on your support group's activities.
Thank you very much,
J.C. (Paris).

From Spain:

To Omori Support Group (Tokyo).
As workers and students of Talavera (Toledo) we demand the right of human life and call for releas and forgiveness of those on trial for trying to advanc humanity.
Abolish the death sentence! Support freedom of expression and thought! Long live humanity!
(This letter has been sent to Tokyo's Supreme Court and to Prime Minister Nakasone).

TOKYO
FREE OMORI DEMO HELD

These photos were taken on a Free Omori demonstration held in Tokyo on April 6th







WHO IS KATSUHISA OMORI

For anyone not familiar with the Omori case, here are the main facts...

2/3/76.. A bomb explodes in a Hokkaido Gov. Office (in Japan). Two goverment officials are killed and 81 injured in the blast,. The "East Asian Anti Japan Armed Front" claims responsibility for the bombing as part of their campaign against Japanese imperialism.

2/7/76.. Saburo Kato, a friend of Omori is arrested in Gifu province by police. They claim he is a member of the EAAJAF.

20/7/76.. All known relatives and friends of Kato are put under surveillance, including Omori.

10/8/76.. Omori is arrested in connection with the Hokkaido Go. Office bombing.

8/2/77.. Omori goes on trial at Sapparo District Court accused of causing the explosion. He pleads not guilty. The trial drags on for six years.

29/3/83.. Despite the lack of hard evidence Omori is found guilty and sentenced to death . His appeal against the death sentence goes to the High Court.

12/6/84.. Omori's appeal begins at the Sappor High Court. Hearings are now monthly, and a verdict is expected soon.

11/8/86.. International Day of Protest called to commemorate Omori's 10 years in prison.

WHAT CAN I DO

International Solidarity in support of the Free Omori Campaign is essential. It means the difference between life and death.

Write letters demanding Omori's release to :

Japanese Embassy, 46 Grosvenor St , London W 1 (Telephone 01-4932475)

Minister of Justice, Hiroshi Shimasaki,
Homo Sho, 1-1 Kasumigaseki,
1 - Chome, Chiyoda - Ku, Tokyo 100
JAPAN

Send letters ,support and donations to :

Omori Support Committee,
No 35 Chitose P O Box,
Setagaya - Ku, Tokyo,
JAPAN

ANOTHER POLICE MURDER

POLICE TORTURE AND MURDER DEFENCELESS OLD MAN

Henry Foley, 67, a retired bus driver, died after a 'brutal assault' at Southport Police Station on Merseyside. The widowed pensioner was handcuffed after being found 'drunk and disorderly' outside a railway club.

Alwen Sawyer, 45, the Duty Sergeant, is thought to have punched and kicked Foley, leaving him with what the post mortem showed as 'terrible injuries to his stomach' , i.e. a complete rupture of the small bowel, spleen and kidney injuries.

Forensic evidence linked marks on Henry Foley's shirt with boots worn by Sgt. Sawyer

SUBSCRIBE TO BLACK FLAG

COMMENT

ANARCHO-SYNDICALIST FEDERATION FORMED

Report of the Conference of Anarcho-syndicalists in Sydney January 25th to 27th 1986.

Last January Anarcho-syndicalists from Melbourne, Sydney and Wollongong came together in conference at the Jura Bookshop in King St, Newtown and founded the first indigenous federation of Anarcho-syndicalist groups to declare its intention to apply for affiliation to the International Workers Association.

As 1986 is the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Melbourne Anarchist Club, and in the spirit of the coming celebrations in May, here follows a brief history of syndicalist activity in Australia to precede the report of the January conference.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Appearance of the IWW in Australia

The failure of the great strikes in the late 1880's and early 1890's led to a schism in the Australian labour movement about where to go next. On one hand there were trade unionists who were advocating the formation of a labour movement oriented political party which led to the Australian Labour Party which came to power in 1910. On the other hand there were sections of the labour movement who saw the political machine as the instrument of Capital and realised that in order to protect the interests of labour it had to organise in one big economically combative union. After the founding of the Industrial Workers of the World at Chicago in 1905, the IWW concept of One Big Union spread to these shores by visiting American Seamen and led to the founding of the Adelaide IWW Club in 1907. The influence of the IWW soon spread the length and breadth of the country via wandering "wobblies", their IWW literature rolled up in their swags, constantly on the move in search of work in the mines and the shearing sheds. The impact of the IWW in the Australian labour movement was enormous. By 1914 the Australian IWW paper "Direct Action" had a circulation of 20,000 (at a time when the population of Australia was barely four millions). The IWW was in the forefront of the anti-conscription campaign. Two attempts by the Labour government of Prime Minister Billy Hughes to introduce conscription by referendum failed narrowly.

It had a more insurgent attitude to the First World War than that of the IWW in America. As a result of all this, the IWW became the victim of violent repression by the Labour government. The Sydney offices of "Direct Action" were repeatedly raided, its Editorial Board arrested, and copies of "Direct Action" confiscated. In 1917 twelve members of the Sydney IWW were arrested on charges ranging from arson to treason. As well a number of IWW militants were arrested on charges of counterfeiting five pounds notes. The government used the fact that some wobblies were of German and Austrian descent in an attempt to discredit the IWW as traitors. In the aftermath of the trial of the Sydney Twelve the government passed the Subversive Organisations Act of 1918 making the IWW illegal and followed it with the arrest of hundreds of IWW militants. Despite its suppression the IWW has maintained a presence on this continent through to the present day. Sporadic activity through to the 1940's occurred in South Australia and Western Australia. In 1927 the Sydney Branch reformed clandestinely and remained active until the mid 1950's.

The Recent Resurgence and Decline

The failure of the "social democratic" Labour government of 1972-1975 (the first after 23 years of conservative Liberal Party rule) and its allied reformist unions to bring about any significant improvements for working and unemployed people (its demonstrated incompetence and corruption) and its final demise in a "constitutional" coup d'etat engineered by the conservatives led more people to reject reformist unionism and parliamentary politics.

1975 saw the reappearance of IWW members in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, the same year the last of the old Sydney wobblies, Bert Armstrong, who remained an active speaker and agitator, died. In 1976 the Australian New Zealand General Organising Committee of the IWW formed with a group in Sydney and a group in Melbourne (which grew out of the anti-freeway campaign). The main activities being the distribution of IWW literature and prisoner solidarity work. The Melbourne



Italian fellow workers assembled under the Black Flag, May Day Melbourne, 1927.

IWW had underway moves to form a prisoners union at Pentridge Prison and in Sydney the General Defence Committee (Local 5) did much solidarity work for the Murrays in Ireland, imprisoned Greek anarchists, and Persons Unknown case in Britain. In 1978 the Melbourne IWW disbanded as a group. In 1981, the ANZGOC Bulletin ceased publication and some of those involved started publishing "Rebel Worker" in 1982. By 1983 "Rebel Worker" became an independent Anarcho-syndicalist paper with a view to furthering the influence of the IWA, the IWW ceased to exist as a group and only one member can be found on the entire continent today. The IWW has left behind a rich heritage of syndicalist history and it is remembered by former wobblies with great fondness. The demise of the IWW in Australia can be traced to the fact that the IWW is effectively confined to the North American continent and the growing desire amongst Anarcho-syndicalists in Australia to be part of a greater international Anarcho-syndicalist movement.

The Growing Influence of the IWA

It may come as a surprise to many that Australia once had an IWA affiliate - the Sydney Anarchist Group. It consisted mainly of Bulgarian exiles of the CNTB and was engaged in publishing Anarcho-syndicalist literature from 1958 until the late sixties. In 1977 a group of Anarcho-syndicalists (some of them IWW members) formed the Sydney Anarcho-Syndicalists who adhered to the aims and principles of the IWA and established a bookshop called Jura Books and a small press. By 1979 the SAS more or less ceased to exist as an entity on its own, as Jura Books became the centre for more broad based Anarchist activity. In May 1981 this same group of militants formed the Anarcho-Syndicalist Committee and in its "Communication No.1" stated its aim to spread the influence of the IWA. The ASC ceased to exist as a result of the internal crisis that embroiled Jura Books in 1982. In early 1983 the Sydney IWW disbanded and became the Rebel Worker Group. Soon afterwards the Melbourne Anarcho-Syndicalist Group was founded, a number of whom were former CNT members. The MASG were also interested in developing an Anarcho-syndicalist organisation with the aim of affiliating with the IWA. They held regular Anarcho-syndicalist discussions and engaged in Prisoner Solidarity work. Between these two groups there was much discussion regarding the formation of an Anarcho-syndicalist organisation in Australia and making a formal application to affiliate with the IWA at its 1984 Congress. But time was short and there was much to be discussed. In early 1984 the MASG made the decision to dissolve as a result of some members going overseas and leaving too few behind.

The RWG continued to produce "Rebel Worker" (it has been produced continuously since 1982) and in late 1985 there was discussion in Melbourne about establishing an Anarcho-syndicalist group. There was also an initiative by RWG to hold a conference of Anarcho-syndicalists with the intention of founding an Anarcho-syndicalist organisation in Australia with the aim of applying for affiliation with the IWA. This occurred in January at Sydney.

CONFERENCE REPORT

As can be imagined three days is not much time to discuss and decide everything that needs to be discussed and decided when establishing a federation of Anarcho-syndicalists. Adding to this problem was the embryonic situation with comrades from Melbourne. In retrospect a lot was achieved considering the circumstances. There were many discussions concerning the various aspects of forming an organisation and a lot of what was hoped to be achieved (but not all) was achieved, albeit on a provisional basis.

Oddly enough, the first question to be discussed was "What is Anarcho-syndicalism?" Is it a strategy for change towards an Anarchist society or is it a basis for Anarchist society? Or is it it both? Is it just Anarchist trade unionism? Is it a sound basis for the organisation of production? There seemed to be general agreement about the dual nature of Anarcho-syndicalism, that it is a strategy for change and the basis of an Anarchist society. That while not losing sight of our aims we fight in the here and now to protect the interests of our class.

The next question to be discussed (and probably the most contentious) was "What is the nature of Anarcho-syndicalist organisation?" It was more of an umbrella question concerning isolated members, compulsory unionism, decision-making processes, an organisation of individuals or a federation of local groups. As regards isolated members it was recognised that the situation is exacerbated by a small population in a vast geographic area. Some comrades felt that isolated members should join the Federation through the Federation Secretary and others postulated that isolated members should join the Federation through their nearest local group. There was discussion about how the IWW, the DAM and the CNT handled the problem of individual isolated members. It was decided that Finance Delegates can only be members in good standing of local groups and only local groups have the power to mandate Finance Delegates. The question of affiliating to the Federation as individuals or local groups caused much debate. Some comrades pointed out that its centralising to affiliate as individuals rather than through local groups and that it would make decision making on a continental level problematical. Other comrades disagreed saying that an Anarcho-syndicalist organisation has to be joined on an individual basis. The question of how to make decisions at Federation Conferences brought forth proposals of mass, mass and delegate, delegate only with ratification by local groups but a decision was deferred until the next conference. It was agreed, however, that in the event of an office bearer dying, being imprisoned, moving, or being forced to stand down, its the responsibility of the nearest local group to convene a special meeting to elect a replacememt. Compulsory unionism was another issue that was discussed and is not unique to Australia (namely Britain) but a decision was deferred. By far the biggest discussion was about the adoption of the proposed aims, principles, and statutes (some of which have been touched upon). The conference was adjourned at one point so that comrades from Melbourne could meet to clarify their local situation. This meeting produced a proposal from Melbourne comrades that the stated principles and aims (subject to improvement) be adopted as a provisional basis for a continental organisation and the next conference would formulate the final aims and principles. This proposal was agreed to and the conference proceeded with more direction as an improved aims and principles

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